

AME Assisted Special Issuance (AASI)

The next 21 pages of the Guide for Aviation Medical Examiners introduce the AME Assisted Special Issuance (AASI) process.

If this is a first time issuance for a disqualifying disease/condition and the airman has all of the requisite medical information necessary for a determination, the Examiner must defer, and submit all of the documentation to the AMCD or contact the [RFS](#).

The Guide refers to a number of selected medical conditions that are initially disqualifying and must be deferred to the AMCD or [RFS](#). Following the granting of an Authorization for Special Issuance of a Medical Certificate (Authorization) by the AMCD or RFS's office. Each AASI has their own specialized clinical criteria, by which an Examiner may re-issue a medical certificate to an applicant with a medical history of an initially disqualifying condition, if otherwise qualified.

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AASI FOR HISTORY OF ARTHRITIS

AME Assisted Special Issuance (AASI) is a process that provides Examiner's the ability to reissue an airman medical certificate to an applicant with a medical history of an initially disqualifying condition.

The FAA staff physicians provide the initial certification decision and grant the Authorization in accordance with part 67 ([14 CFR § 67.401](#)). The Authorization letter is accompanied by attachments that specify the information that treating physician(s) must provide for the reissuance determination. If this is a first time issuance for this disease/condition, and the airman has all of the requisite medical information necessary for a determination, you must defer and submit all of the documentation to the AMCD, or contact your [RFS](#) for the initial determination.

Examiner's may reissue an airman medical certificate, if the applicant provides the following:

- An Authorization granted by the FAA
- The type of arthritis
- A general assessment of condition and effect on daily activities
- The name and dosage of medication(s) used for treatment and/or prevention with comment regarding side effects
- Comments regarding range of motion of neck, upper and lower extremities, hands, etc.

The Examiner should defer to AMCD or Region if:

- The applicant has developed any associated systemic manifestations
- If new joints become involved
- If the applicant is placed on medication(s) other than those acceptable medications listed below

ARTHRITIS MEDICATIONS

REQUIRES DEFERRAL	MAY BE USED
Plaquenil	Aspirin
Oral Chemotherapy - type medications Methotrexate, steroids >20mg of Prednisone equivalent daily, or Gold Therapy	Similar nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAID), Ibuprofen, Naproxen

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AASI FOR HISTORY OF ASTHMA

AME Assisted Special Issuance (AASI) is a process that provides Examiner's the ability to reissue an airman medical certificate to an applicant with a medical history of an initially disqualifying condition.

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Examiner's may reissue an airman medical certificate, if the applicant provides the following:

- An Authorization granted by the FAA
- The applicant's current medical status that addresses frequency of attacks and whether the attacks have resulted in emergency room visits or hospitalizations
- The Examiner should caution the applicant to cease flying with any exacerbation as warned in §61.53
- The name and dosage of medication(s) used for treatment and/or prevention with comment regarding side effects
- Results of Pulmonary Function Testing (PFT), if deemed necessary, performed within last 90 days

The Examiner should defer to the AMCD or Region if:

- The symptoms worsen
- There has been an increase in frequency of emergency room, hospital, or outpatient visits
- The FEV1 is less than 70% predicted value
- The applicant requires 3 or more medications for stabilization

- The applicant is using steroids in dosages equivalent to more than 20mg of Prednisone per day

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AASI FOR HISTORY OF ATRIAL FIBRILLATION

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Examiner's may reissue an airman medical certificate, if the applicant provides the following:

- An Authorization granted by the FAA
- A summary of the applicant's medical condition since the last FAA medical examination, including a statement regarding any further episodes of atrial fibrillation
- The name and dosage of medication(s) used for treatment and/or prevention with comment regarding side effects
- A report of a current 24-hour Holter Monitor performed within last 90 days

The Examiner should defer to the AMCD or Region if:

- There is a recurrent episode of atrial fibrillation
- The applicant develops chronic atrial fibrillation
- The applicant is placed on anticoagulation therapy

AASI FOR HISTORY OF CHRONIC LYMPHOCYTIC LEUKEMIA

AME Assisted Special Issuance (AASI) is a process that provides Examiner's the ability to reissue an airman medical certificate to an applicant with a medical history of an initially disqualifying condition.

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Examiner's may reissue an airman medical certificate, if the applicant provides the following:

- An Authorization granted by the FAA
- A clinical followup report from the treating physician that includes an update of the condition of the applicant since the last examination
- The results of any applicable laboratory results, including a complete blood count performed within last 90 days

The Examiner should defer to the AMCD or Region if:

- The condition currently requires treatment with a chemotherapeutic agent
- The white blood cell count has risen above 80,000

AASI FOR HISTORY OF CHRONIC OBSTRUCTIVE PULMONARY DISEASE

AME Assisted Special Issuance (AASI) is a process that provides Examiner's the ability to reissue an airman medical certificate to an applicant with a medical history of an initially disqualifying condition.

The FAA staff physicians make the initial certification decision and grant the Authorization in accordance with part 67 ([14 CFR § 67.401](#)). The Authorization letter is accompanied by attachments that specify what treating physician(s) information the applicant must provide to request the reissuance of the medical certificate. If this is a first time issuance with this disease/condition, and the airman has all of the requisite medical information necessary for a determination, you must defer and submit all of the documentation to the AMCD, or contact your [RFS](#).

Examiner's may reissue an airman medical certificate, if the applicant provides the following:

- An Authorization granted by the FAA
- A statement regarding symptomatology of the condition
- A statement addressing any associated illnesses, such as heart failure
- The name and dosage of medication(s) used for treatment and/or prevention with comment regarding side effects
- A pulmonary specialist evaluation that includes the results of a current pulmonary function test performed with last 90 days

The Examiner should defer to the AMCD or Region if:

- The FEV1 or FEV1/FVC is less than 70%
- The applicant has been placed on a steroid dose equivalent to greater than 20mg of Prednisone per day
- The applicant has developed an associated cardiac condition

AASI FOR HISTORY OF COLITIS (ULCERATIVE OR CROHN'S DISEASE)

AME Assisted Special Issuance (AASI) is a process that provides Examiner's the ability to reissue an airman medical certificate to an applicant with a medical history of an initially disqualifying condition.

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Examiner's may reissue an airman medical certificate, if the applicant provides the following:

- An Authorization granted by the FAA
- A statement regarding the extent of disease
- A statement regarding the frequency of exacerbation (the applicant should cease flying with any exacerbation as warned in §61.53)
- The name and dosage of medication(s) used for treatment and/or prevention with comment regarding side effects

The Examiner should defer to the AMCD or Region if:

- There is a current exacerbation of the illness
- The applicant is taking medications such as Lomotil, steroid doses equivalent to more than 20mg of Prednisone per day, antispasmodics, and anticholinergics
- The pattern of exacerbations are increasing in frequency or severity; or applicant underwent surgical intervention

AASI FOR HISTORY OF COLON/COLORECTAL CANCER

AME Assisted Special Issuance (AASI) is a process that provides Examiner's the ability to reissue an airman medical certificate to an applicant with a medical history of an initially disqualifying condition.

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Examiner's may reissue an airman medical certificate, if the applicant provides the following:

- An Authorization granted by the FAA
- An update of the status of the malignancy since the last FAA medical examination, to include the results of a current (performed within last 90 days) carcinoembryonic antigen (CEA), if a baseline value is available

The Examiner should defer to the AMCD or Region if:

- There has been any progression of the disease or an increase in CEA

AASI FOR HISTORY OF ORAL DIABETES MEDICATION(S) DIABETES MELLITUS – TYPE II

AME Assisted Special Issuance (AASI) is a process that provides Examiner's the ability to reissue an airman medical certificate to an applicant with a medical history of an initially disqualifying condition.

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Examiner's may reissue an airman medical certificate, if the applicant provides the following:

- An Authorization granted by the FAA
- A statement attesting that the airman is maintaining his or her diabetic diet
- A statement regarding any diabetic symptomology
- The results of a current HgA1c level

The Examiner should defer to the AMCD or Region if:

- The applicant has been placed on insulin
- The HgA1c level is greater than 9.0 mg%
- The applicant has developed cardiovascular, neurological, renal and/or ophthalmological disease

AASI FOR HISTORY OF GLAUCOMA

AME Assisted Special Issuance (AASI) is a process that provides Examiner's the ability to reissue an airman medical certificate to an applicant with a medical history of an initially disqualifying condition.

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Examiner's may reissue an airman medical certificate, if the applicant provides the following:

- An Authorization granted by the FAA
- Certification only granted for open-angle-glaucoma and ocular hypertension
- The FAA Form 8500-14, Glaucoma Eye Evaluation Form is filled out by the treating eye specialist
- A set of visual fields measurements is provided

The Examiner should defer to the AMCD or Region if:

- The FAA Form 8500-14 Glaucoma Eye Evaluation Form demonstrates visual acuity incompatible with the medical standards
- There is a change in visual fields or adverse change in ocular pressure

AASI FOR HISTORY OF HEPATITIS C

AME Assisted Special Issuance (AASI) is a process that provides Examiner's the ability to reissue an airman medical certificate to an applicant with a medical history of an initially disqualifying condition.

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Examiner's may reissue an airman medical certificate, if the applicant provides the following:

- An Authorization granted by the FAA
- Any symptoms the applicant has developed
- The name and dosage of medication(s) used for treatment and/or prevention with comment regarding side effects
- A current liver function profile performed within last 90 days

The Examiner should defer to the AMCD or Region if:

- The applicant has developed symptoms
- There has been a change in treatment regimen or the applicant has been placed on alpha-interferon
- Any side effects from required medication
- An adverse change in liver function studies

AASI FOR HISTORY OF HYPERTHYROIDISM

AME Assisted Special Issuance (AASI) is a process that provides Examiner's the ability to reissue an airman medical certificate to an applicant with a medical history of an initially disqualifying condition.

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Examiner's may reissue an airman medical certificate, if the applicant provides the following:

- An Authorization granted by the FAA current statement of the condition since last FAA medical examination
- The name and dosage of medication(s) used for treatment and/or prevention with comment regarding side effects
- Current thyroid function studies performed within last 90 days

The Examiner should defer to the AMCD or Region if:

- The thyroid function studies are elevated, suggesting inadequate treatment
- The applicant developed an associated illness, such as dysrhythmia

AASI FOR HISTORY OF HYPOTHYROIDISM

AME Assisted Special Issuance (AASI) is a process that provides Examiner's the ability to reissue an airman medical certificate to an applicant with a medical history of an initially disqualifying condition.

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Examiner's may reissue an airman medical certificate, if the applicant provides the following:

- An Authorization granted by the FAA
- The name and dosage of medication(s) used for treatment and/or prevention with comment regarding side effects
- A statement regarding any other associated problems, such as cardiac or visual
- A statement regarding the current thyroid stimulating hormone (TSH) level performed within last 90 days

The Examiner should defer to the AMCD or Region if:

- The applicant develops a related problem in another system, such as cardiac
- The TSH level is elevated

AASI FOR HISTORY OF LYMPHOMA AND HODGKIN'S DISEASE

AME Assisted Special Issuance (AASI) is a process that provides Examiner's the ability to reissue an airman medical certificate to an applicant with a medical history of an initially disqualifying condition.

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Examiner's may reissue an airman medical certificate, if the applicant provides the following:

- An Authorization granted by the FAA
- An update of the status of the disease from the last FAA medical examination and any testing deemed necessary by the treating physician

The Examiner should defer to the AMCD or Region if:

- There has been any recurrence or disease progression

AASI FOR HISTORY OF MIGRAINES

AME Assisted Special Issuance (AASI) is a process that provides Examiner's the ability to reissue an airman medical certificate to an applicant with a medical history of an initially disqualifying condition.

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Examiner's may reissue an airman medical certificate, if the applicant provides the following:

- An Authorization granted by the FAA
- A statement regarding the frequency of headaches and/or other associated symptoms since last followup report
- A statement regarding if the characteristics of the headaches changed
- The name and dosage of medication(s) used for treatment and/or prevention with comment regarding side effects

The Examiner should defer to the AMCD or Region if:

- The frequency of headaches and/or other symptoms increase since the last followup report
- The applicant is placed on a medication, such as isometheptene mucate, narcotic analgesic, tramadol, tricyclic-antidepressant medication, etc.

AASI FOR HISTORY OF MITRAL OR AORTIC INSUFFICIENCY

AME Assisted Special Issuance (AASI) is a process that provides Examiner's the ability to reissue an airman medical certificate to an applicant with a medical history of an initially disqualifying condition.

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Examiner's may reissue an airman medical certificate, if the applicant provides the following:

- An Authorization granted by the FAA
- A summary of the applicant's medical condition since the last FAA medical examination, including a statement regarding any further episodes of atrial fibrillation
- A current 2-D echocardiogram with Doppler performed within last 90 days

The Examiner should defer to the AMCD or Region if:

- The gradient across the valve reaches 40 mm HG
- New symptoms occur
- An arrhythmia develops
- The treating physician or Examiner reports the murmur is now moderate to severe (Grade III or IV)

AASI FOR HISTORY OF PAROXYSMAL ATRIAL TACHYCARDIA

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Examiner's may reissue an airman medical certificate, if the applicant provides the following:

- An Authorization granted by the FAA
- A statement regarding any recurrences since the last FAA medical examination
- The name and dosage of medication(s) used for treatment and/or prevention with comment regarding side effects

The Examiner should defer to the AMCD or Region if:

- There have been one or more recurrences
- The applicant has received some treatment that was not reported in the past, such as radiofrequency ablation

AASI FOR HISTORY OF PROSTATE CANCER

AME Assisted Special Issuance (AASI) is a process that provides Examiner's the ability to reissue an airman medical certificate to an applicant with a medical history of an initially disqualifying condition.

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Examiner's may reissue an airman medical certificate, if the applicant provides the following:

- An Authorization granted by the FAA
- A current status of the medical condition to include any testing deemed necessary
- A current prostate specific antigen (PSA) level performed within last 90 days

The Examiner should defer to the AMCD or Region if:

- The PSA rises at a rate above 0.75 ng/ml per year
- A new treatment is initiated
- Any metastasis has occurred

AASI FOR HISTORY OF RENAL CALCULI

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Examiner's may reissue an airman medical certificate, if the applicant provides the following:

- An Authorization granted by the FAA
- A statement from your treating physician regarding the location of the retained stone(s), estimation as to size of stone, and likelihood of becoming symptomatic
- A current report of appropriate imaging study (IVP, KUB, Ultrasound, or Spiral CT Scan) and provide a metabolic work-up, both performed within last 90 days

The Examiner should defer to the AMCD or Region if:

- If the treating physician comments that the current stone has a likelihood of becoming symptomatic
- If the retained stone(s) has moved when compared to previous evaluations
- If the stone(s) has become larger when compared to previous evaluation

AASI FOR HISTORY OF SLEEP APNEA

AME Assisted Special Issuance (AASI) is a process that provides Examiner's the ability to reissue an airman medical certificate to an applicant with a medical history of an initially disqualifying condition.

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Examiner's may reissue an airman medical certificate, if the applicant provides the following:

- An Authorization granted by the FAA
- A current report (performed within last 90 days) from the treating physician that references the present treatment, whether this has eliminated any symptoms and with specific comments regarding daytime sleepiness. If there is any question about response or compliance with treatment, then a Maintenance of Wakefulness Test (MWT) will be required

The Examiner should defer to the AMCD or Region if:

- There is any question concerning the adequacy of therapy
- The applicant appears to be non-compliant with therapy
- The MWT demonstrates sleep deficiency
- The applicant has developed some associated illness, such as right-sided heart failure